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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/820,491	04/08/2004	Frank Worthoff	133641	7283

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EXAMINER

VERDIER, CHRISTOPHER M

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3745

DATE MAILED: 07/14/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/820,491

Applicant(s)

WORTHOFF ET AL.

Examiner

Christopher Verdier

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 January 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,5,6 and 11-13 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 3,4,7-10 and 14-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 08 April 2004 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 1-4-05.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

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Receipt and entry of Applicants' Preliminary Amendment dated January 4, 2005 is acknowledged.

Drawings

The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they include the following reference character(s) not mentioned in the description: "94", "95", "96", and "97". Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d), or amendment to the specification to add the reference character(s) in the description in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(b) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: Appropriate correction is required.

In paragraph 29, lines 5 and 6, "110" should be changed to -- 100 --.

None of the sheets in figure 8 are described in the specification.

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The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. See 37 CFR 1.75(d)(1) and MPEP § 608.01(o). Correction of the following is required:

Claim 8, which recites that the third layer is formed from at least three sheets coupled together such that a first sheet within the third layer includes a plurality of fibers that are oriented substantially in a direction that is substantially parallel to the orientation of the fibers within the first layer first sheet, and such that a second sheet within the third layer includes a plurality of fibers that are oriented in a second direction that is offset approximately forty-five degrees from the third layer first sheet, has no antecedent basis in the specification.

Claim 18, which recites that the third layer plurality of sheets comprise at least a first sheet and a second sheet, with the third layer first sheet coupled to the second layer such that the third layer first sheet plurality of fibers are aligned substantially axially, the third layer second sheet coupled to the third layer first sheet such that the second sheet plurality of fibers are aligned approximately forty-five degrees offset from the third layer first sheet plurality of fibers, has no antecedent basis in the specification.

Examiner's Suggestions to Claim Language

The following are suggestions to improve the clarity and precision of the claims:

In claim 3, line 2, "an" may be changed to -- the --.

In claim 6, line 2, "an" may be changed to -- the --.

In claim 9, line 2, "an" may be changed to -- the --.

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In claim 10, line 2, "an" may be changed to -- the --.

Claim Objections

Claim 8 is objected to because of the following informalities: Appropriate correction is required.

In claim 8, line 5, "to the" (second occurrence) should be deleted.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 3-4, 7-10, and 14-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. In claim 3, lines 3-4, which recite "a first layer that is fabricated from a fiberglass material" is inaccurate, because it recites "a first layer" which is actually the first layer recited in claim 1, line 8, and not a different first layer, as is claimed. It is suggested that in claim 3, line 3, "that includes a first layer that" be changed to -- such that the first layer --. Claim 4, which recites that the first layer is formed at least approximately 0.09 inches thick is inaccurate, because the thickness of the first layer is approximately .015 inches thick (see paragraph 19 of the specification). Claim 7, which recites that the second layer is formed at least 0.175 inches thick is inaccurate, because the thickness of the second layer is approximately .085 inches thick (see paragraph 24 of the specification). Claim 9, which recites that the third layer is formed from fiberglass material is inaccurate, because the third layer is

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formed from glass epoxy (see paragraph 30 of the specification). Claim 14, which recites that the first layer is formed approximately 0.09 inches thick is inaccurate, because the thickness of the first layer is approximately .015 inches thick (see paragraph 19 of the specification). In claim 15, lines 4 and 5, "said first sheet" is unclear if this refers to the first sheet of the first layer or the first sheet of the second layer. In claim 15, lines 7 and 8, "said second sheet" is unclear if this refers to the second sheet of the first layer or the second sheet of the second layer. Claim 17, which recites that the second layer is approximately 0.175 inches thick is inaccurate, because the thickness of the second layer is approximately .085 inches thick (see paragraph 24 of the specification). In claim 18, lines 6-7, "said second sheet plurality of fibers" is unclear if this refers to the second sheet of the first layer, the second sheet of the second layer, or the second sheet of the third layer. Claim 19, which recites that the third layer comprises fiberglass material is inaccurate, because the third layer is formed from glass epoxy (see paragraph 30 of the specification).

Prior Art

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Mitchell (figures 7-8) is cited to show a fan blade casing containment system with strands 62 that extend in a circumferential direction, interbraided with angled strands.

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Stewart and United Kingdom Patent 2,037,900 are cited to show containment rings made of plural layers of fibers.

Allowable Subject Matter

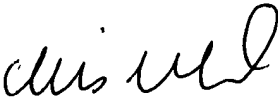
Claims 1-2, 5-6, and 11-13 are allowed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher Verdier whose telephone number is (571) 272-4824. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 10:00-6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward K. Look can be reached on (571) 272-4820. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

C.V.
July 10, 2005


Christopher Verdier
Primary Examiner
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